


13th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers



Advent: Joy!

Thought of the Week



Advent is a special time. This week, the children have been learning about what it means to have hope and faith that God will keep his promise to return to us, and how we can prepare our hearts to receive him. The children are continuing to try to keep the Advent promises they made in preparation for the coming of Our Lord, Jesus.

Good News

I would just like to inform you all of some wonderful news. Both Mrs Harper and Mrs Scally had beautiful baby boys. Both babies are thriving and the mums are keeping busy caring for their newborns.



Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 15th December is Christmas dinner day. The children may wear a Christmas jumper/tee shirt etc. Please note, the children do not have to wear their school uniform. We are kindly asking for donations of either £2 via the School Gateway or items such as chocolates, boxes of biscuits or a bottle of alcohol for our Christmas Raffle. Tickets can be purchased through your School Gateway account. The raffle will be drawn next week. All prize-winners will be contacted.

Parents & Friends Association (PFA) Christmas Shop

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated gifts to our Christmas Appeal. We raised £530. Some of the proceeds will go towards purchasing a small Christmas gift (e.g. chocolates) for each child from the PFA.

Important Notice: School Admissions: Primary School Place

The paragraph below is very important for all Foundation 1 parents and any parent seeking a school place for their child in September 2022. Applications for admission to our school opened on 1 November. You will need to apply for a school place if your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018

Please ensure you complete the **Hertfordshire online form at:**

(<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-junior-and-middle-schools/primary-junior-and-middle-school-places.aspx>)

When completing the online form, please be aware that there are four St Joseph's schools in Hertfordshire, so it is imperative to select the right St Joseph's.

We are St Joseph's in Watford, code number 9193383.

You will also need to complete the **School's Supplementary Information Form**, which is obtainable from the school office or the school's website.

All forms must be completed and returned to the School Office before admission can be considered.

Therefore, to apply for our school, the following documents are required:

1. Supplementary Information Form
2. Certificate of Catholic Practice (if applicable)
3. Baptism Certificate (if applicable)

Please do not be late as this could jeopardise your child's place at the school.

The closing date for all applications is 15 January 2022.

Nursery School Applications

The paragraph below is very important for all parents with children born between 1st September 2018 and 31 August 2019. Applications for admission to our Nursery Class has now opened. Please ensure you complete the **School's Supplementary Form which you can obtain from the school's website or the school office**. All forms must be completed and returned to the school office before admission can be considered. Therefore, in order to apply for our school, we must receive:

Supplementary Information Form & Nursery
Application Form
Certificate of Catholic Practice (if applicable)
Baptism Certificate (if applicable)

The closing date is 25th February 2022. Please do not be late as this could jeopardise your child's place at the school.

Important Notices

1. School ends at 1.30pm on Tuesday 21st December.

2. School starts back on Thursday 6th January.

3. The school's Christmas Mass has been postponed; however; you may attend the following services at St Joseph's Church:

- Advent Vigil Mass: 18th December at 6p.m.
- Christmas Mass: 24th December at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.
- Midnight Mass 24th December at 12 midnight.
- Christmas Day Mass: 25th December at 8.30a.m. & 10.30a.m.



Book your place at: [Events | Roman Catholic Church of St Joseph \(rcdow.org.uk\)](https://www.rcdow.org.uk)

4. The Nativity Play and Virtual Advent Service will be sent to you by the end of the term.

Attendance Award


Year 5 had the best attendance last week. Well done Year 5!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

God Bless,

Mrs L. Payne

Dates for the diary



December	
Monday 13 th December	KS2 Advent Service. Virtual will be sent to you by the end of the term.
Wednesday 15 th December	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day (children may wear a Christmas jumper/teeshirt).
Thursday 16 th December	Virtual Online Panto
Friday 17 th December	Whole School Christmas Virtual Quiz & Foundation Stage Party
	End of Term Mass – postponed until next year
Tuesday 21st December	End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.
22nd December – 3rd January	Christmas Holiday – School Closed

January 2022	
Spring Term	
Wednesday 5th January	Inset Day – School Closed
Thursday 6th January	Start of Term

February	
Friday 4 th February	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
Monday 7 th February	Parents' Consultations all week Save the date
Monday 7 th February – Friday 11 th February	Feeling Good and Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 8 th February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 11th February	End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.
14th – 18th February	Half Term holiday – School Closed

Monday 21st February	Start of Term
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March	
Tuesday 1 st March	St David's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear green, red, white or yellow).
Wednesday 2 nd March	Ash Wednesday Service – More details to follow.
Thursday 3 rd March	World Book Day – Book Character Non Uniform day. All parents are welcome to attend the World Book Day Assembly This is a non-uniform day. Children may dress up as their favourite book character.
Thursday 17 th March	St Patrick's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear green or white).
Friday 18 th March	St Joseph's Day Mass – date to be confirmed. (TBC)
Friday 25 th March	Mother's day Class Assembly starts at 9.00a.m. All F1 – F2 mothers/carers welcome to attend.
Monday 28 th March	Lenten Cake Competition (all children may enter by baking a cake). Cake sale.
Thursday 31 st March	Lenten Toy Sale (please donate old toys).
Friday 1st April	Easter Bonnet Parade (F1 – Y6 classes) (F1-Y6) All parents welcome to attend the Easter Bonnet Parade. Children to make the bonnets at home and bring them into school. All children may participate in this event. End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.

April	
Tuesday 19th April	Start of Term
Friday 22 nd April	St George's Non-Uniform Day (Children may wear red, white or blue).

May	
Monday 3rd May	Bank Holiday. School closed.
Friday 6 th May	Parents' Forum at 9.45a.m.
3 rd – 20 th May	KS1 SATs- Year 2
Monday 9th – 12th May	KS2 SATs – Year 6 Tests (free breakfast club for Year 6 pupils all week, starting at 8.00a.m.)
Monday 9th May	KS 2 Spelling, punctuation and Grammar Paper 1 & 2 tests
Tuesday 10th May	KS2 Reading Test
Wednesday 11th May	KS2 Maths Paper 1 & 2 Test
Thursday 12th May	KS2 Maths Paper 3 Test
Monday 16 th May	Walk to School Week
Tuesday 24th May	KS1 Sports Day at 9.30a.m. KS1 parents may attend.
Tuesday 24th May	KS2 Sports Day at 1.15p.m. KS2 parents may attend.
Thursday 19 th May	Year 5 Secondary School Transfer Meeting at 2.30p.m. (All Year 5 parents are welcome to attend)
Friday 27 th May	End of term. School closes at 3.15p.m.

30 th May – 3 rd June	Half Term Holiday – School Closed
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June	
Monday 6th June	Inset Day – school closed.
Tuesday 7th June	Start of Term
Tuesday 8 th June – 11 th June	One World Week – Working together for a just, peaceful and sustainable world.
Tuesday 7 th June	Year 1 Phonic tests commence Year 4 Multiplication tests commence
Tuesday 14 th June	KS1 Reserve Sports Day at 9.30p.m. KS1 parents may attend.
Tuesday 14 th June	KS2 Reserve Sports Day at 1.15p.m. KS2 parents may attend.
Thursday 23 rd June	Phonic meeting for F2 parents- Getting ready for Year 1 at 2.00p.m

Tuesday 28th June	Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9.30a.m. F1 & F2 parents welcome to attend.
July	
Monday 4 th July	F1 visits and new parents meeting 1.30p.m.
Tuesday 5 th July	Year 2 to Year 3 Transition Meeting at 2.30p.m. (All Year 2 parents are welcome to attend)
Wednesday 6 th July	Reserve date: Foundation Stage Sports Day at 9.30a.m. F1 & F2 parents welcome to attend.
Thursday 7 th July	Transition Day for all pupils Secondary School Transition day New to F2 Parents' Meeting at 9.15a.m. (Current F1 parents to attend).
Friday 15 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass Whole School Picnic starting at 12.30p.m. (weather permitting)
Monday 18 th July	KS2 Dress Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m. KS2 parents and toddlers are welcome to attend.
Tuesday 19 th July	KS2 Play at 6.00p.m KS2 parents are welcome to attend.
Wednesday 20th July	Leavers' Assembly at 9.00 a.m. (F1 – Y6) All parents are welcome to attend the Mass End of Term Year 6 lunch End of term. School closes at 1.30p.m.